

REMARKS

Enclosed is a Petition for Extension of Time Under 37 CFR 1.136(a) for a one month extension of time. A USPTO credit card payment for \$60.00 is also enclosed.

Newly added claim 23 recites the specific structure of the inside axle support arm and the outside axle support arm and the manner in which they pivotally support the individual propulsion units. The structure recited in this claim is clearly illustrated in Fig. 3.

The Examiner has rejected most of the originally filed claims based upon the Lifferth patent. The Lifferth patent does not have an outside axle support arm. The Examiner had referred to the pivoted suspension arm 23 of Lifferth as an inside axle support arm. What this structure does is make shaft 17 a cantilevered structural member. The disclosure of the patent reference states that driveshaft 17 is journaled in bearings in the inner and outer walls of pivoted suspension arm 23.

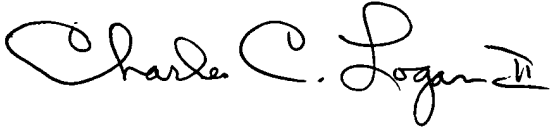
It is doubtful if the Lifferth patent application ever developed into an actual off-highway vehicle. The stress on a cantilevered shaft member 17 would be extreme and make it unlikely to be able to survive the different forces subjected upon it. Any attempts to provide Lifferth with the broad structure of an outside axle support arm would require excessive design changes to Lifferth and probably not be obvious until after having seen applicant's novel structure.

With regard to the new structure recited in claim 23, none of this structure is illustrated in Lifferth or any of the other patent references made of record. For the reasons set forth above it is believed that new claim 23 is patentable over any and all of the patent references cited by the Examiner.

Claims 24-37 are believed to be patentable for the reasons stated above with regard to claim 23 and in further view of the structural limitations contained in each of the respective dependent claims.

1 Since all of the claims now remaining in the patent application are believed to be
2 allowable, early allowance is respectfully solicited.

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4 Respectfully submitted,

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